

[Letter from C. E. Triggs to Roy Schroder, December 4, 1939]

December 4, 1939

Mr. Roy Schroder State Work Projects Administrator 49 West Duval Street Jacksonville, Florida

Attention: Mrs. Rolla A. Southworth, Director Professional and Service Projects

Dear Mr. Schroder:

This is in reply to Dr. Corse's recent correspondence with Mr. Alan Lomax and Dr. Luther H. Evans, which has been referred to this office. The request for the recording-machine batteries and transformer has been approved by us.

Regarding the request for the loan of the Florida folksong records for demonstration before a meeting of the Folk Arts Committee of Florida, there are several difficulties presented. In the first place, the original discs should never be played for demonstration purposes. Secondly, dubbings of the Florida records have not yet been made. These dubbings likewise cannot be loaned except for transcription purposes. For demonstration and study a special album of selections is being contemplated, since obviously a certain amount of selection and arrangement is necessary in preparing material for these purposes. The state, however, may acquire a permanent set of duplicates at its own expense, which includes the cost of discs and the cost of handling and duplicating the records. Finally, the Joint Committee on Folk Arts of the Work Projects Administration is now in process of reorganisation, for just such a service as is needed here, with the result that the present, as well as further delay, is unavoidable. Meanwhile, we wish to assure the Joint

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Committee on Folk Arts in Florida of our whole-hearted interest in its present progress and future program, and of our desire to co-operate to the full extent of our ability.

Until the Washington Committee has been set up on a working basis, it would be advisable for all correspondence to be addressed to this office. It would facilitate our record-keeping if we could be supplied at once with the following information, which is needed by the Library of Congress.

1. Number of blanks received by you
2. Complete list of titles recorded, by number, including title, type, name of singer, place and date of recording, name of recorder, and other documentation. (We have a check list for eight records made by Dr. Alton C. Morris — the number of which was incorrectly given as 9 in Dr. Corse's letter of October 24 — but not for the remaining 22 records.)

We are in receipt of the texts of the first sixteen records. May we inquire if these were transcribed directly from the records, and by whom?

Regarding the blanks which Dr. Morris so kindly lent to the Florida recording expedition, it would simplify matters if he were to be paid back with blanks from the supply sent to you.

Sincerely yours, C. E. Triggs, Director Community Service Projects

By Maurice Howe Administrative Assistant WPA Writers' Program

CC: State Supervisor Florida Writers' Project

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